



East Orange

Research Enhancement Award Program

Director: Leonard M. Pogach, MD, MBA

Executive Summary for Fiscal Year 2008

The VANJHCS Center for Healthcare Knowledge Management for Chronic Complex Illness (CHEKOM) is based at the East Orange VAMC. It was initially funded in July 2003, and refunded beginning October 1, 2008. The major collaborating academic institutions include the Rutgers University Institute for Health (Division of Chronic Disease Management and Outcomes and Division of Health Behaviors), and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ)-New Jersey Medical School (Department of Preventive Medicine).

The three research strategic goals that will frame our work during the next funding period are:

- (1) Evaluation of Effectiveness of Care by assessing how care for one condition (or clusters of conditions) affects the care for other comorbid conditions, thus impacting overall morbidity, mortality, and expenditures.
- (2) Evaluation of Quality, Costs and Efficiency of Care by developing composite quality measures linked with costs (efficiency).
- (3) Development and evaluation of Care Coordination Strategies that will improve veteran adherence to and outcomes of care.